

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CG-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 COME-00 JUSE-00 L-03

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FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6629

UNCLAS MADRID 5935

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EWWT, SP

SUBJECT: SPANISH MERCHANT VESSEL HELD IN PORT OF HOUSTON, TEXAS

1. MR. MIGUEL ESPARRAGO PATINO, ATTORNEY AND LEGAL REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SPANISH SHIPPING COMPANY NAVIERA DE CANARIAS,S.A., OPERATORS OF THE VESSEL PEDRO RAMIREZ, HAS APPEALED TO THE EMBASSY FOR ASSISTANCE IN OBTAINING THE RELEASE OF ITS MERCHANT VESSEL. THE SHIP, HE STATES, IS BEING HELD BY THE PORT AUTHORITIES IN HOUSTON, TEXAS, FOR LACK OF REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS INDICATING THAT THE VESSEL IS SPANISH.

2. MR. ESPARRAGO HAS SHOWN THE ORIGINAL OF THE NAVIGATION CERTIFICATE, NO. 8853, ISSUED BY THE SPANISH MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (UNDERSECRETARIAT FOR THE MERCHANT MARINE), DATED APRIL 10, 1976, STATING THE VESSEL, PEDRO RAMIREZ OWNED BY THE SHIPPING LINE NAVIERA ASON, S.A., HAS BEEN REGISTERED AT THE PORT OF SANTANDER, SPAIN. CERTIFICATE WAS SIGNED BY KING JUAN CARLOS AND MINISTER OF COMMERCE.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: THAT THE DEPARTMENT, PROVIDED NO OBJECTION IS PERCEIVED, INFORM THE AUTHORITIES OF THE PORT OF HOUSTON THAT THE ORIGINAL OF THE NAVIGATION CERTIFICATE HAS BEEN SHOWN TO THIS EMBASSY STATING THE VESSEL PEDRO RAMIREZ HAS SPANISH NATIONALITY AND ATTEMPT TO OBTAIN THE PERMISSION OF THE HOUSTON AUTHORITIES TO RELEASE THE SHIP. MR. ESPARRAGO INFORMS US THAT THE SHIP IS BEING FINED \$2,000 PER DAY BY THE PORT OF HOUSTON. THE SPANISH COMPANY'S AGENT IN HOUSTON IS: OCEAN HOUSTON
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INTERNATIONAL CORP., SUITE 1112-1314, TEXAS AVENUE.

STABLER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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To: STATE
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